

*IPU/18*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Isao SENDO et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3744**

Serial No.: **10/615,838**

Examiner: **William E. Tapolcai**

Filed: **July 10, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **8880**

For: **EXPANSION VALVE**

Attorney Docket Number: **030784**

Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)/(e)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 22, 2005

04/25/2005 SZEWDIE1 00000014 10615838

01 FC:1806 Sir: 180.00 DP

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. A copy of each non-U.S. document is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before or concurrent with payment of the Issue Fee. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).


The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the foreign communication citing the documents is attached.

Information Disclosure Statement under 1.97(d)  
Attorney Docket No. 030784  
Serial No. 10/615,838

Each listed document was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office and the communication was not received by any person defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than 30 days before filing of this paper.

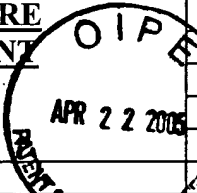
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,  
**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

  
Michael J. Caridi  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 56,171  
Telephone: (202) 822-1100  
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

MJC/mlj

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08  
Document(s)  
Foreign Communication  
Check for \$180.00

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO			<i>Complete if Known</i>	
			Application Number	10/615,838
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Confirmation Number	8880
			Filing Date	July 10, 2003
			First Named Inventor	Isao SENDO
			Art Unit	3744
Sheet _____ of _____			Examiner Name	William E. Tapolcai
			Attorney Docket Number	030784

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	1 069 385	A2	01-17-2001	TGK Co., Ltd.	YES
		EP	1 052 463	A2	11-15-2000	Fujikoki Corporation	YES
		JP	11 108502	A	04-23-1999	Denso Corp.	Abstract
		JP	07 190565	A	07-28-1995	Nippon Denso Co. Ltd.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.